

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 217579

ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/IAI:WSMITH:LL

APPROVED BY P:PHABIB

NEA:ALATHERTONJR.

S/S-O:JTHYDEN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 217579

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SOPN, XF

SUBJECT: PROPOSED REPLY BY PRESS SPOKESMAN TO QUESTION ON  
U.S. POSITION ON PALESTINIAN PARTICIPATION IN GENEVA CON-  
FERENCE

1. UNDER SECRETARY HABIB CALLED IN AMBASSADOR DINITZ  
AFTERNOON OF SEPTEMBER 11 TO INFORM HIM THAT (A) WE HAVE  
BEEN RECEIVING QUESTIONS ABOUT WHY U.S. IS PAYING SO MUCH  
ATTENTION TO PLO AND PALESTINIANS IN OUR CURRENT MIDDLE  
EAST PEACE EFFORTS AND HOW PLO CAN BE PARTY TO GENEVA  
CONFERENCE WHEN IT HAS NOT ACCEPTED RESOLUTION 242, AND  
(B) IN RESPONSE TO THESE QUESTIONS, DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN  
WILL MAKE FOLLOWING RESPONSE AT PRESS BRIEFING MONDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 12.

2. BEGIN TEXT. "ALONG WITH THE ISSUES OF THE NATURE OF  
PEACE, RECOGNITION, SECURITY, AND BORDERS, THE STATUS OF  
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PAGE 02 STATE 217579

THE PALESTINIANS MUST BE SETTLED IN A COMPREHENSIVE ARAB-  
ISRAELI PEACE AGREEMENT. THIS ISSUE CANNOT BE IGNORED IF  
THE OTHERS ARE TO BE SOLVED.

MOREOVER, TO BE LASTING, A PEACE AGREEMENT MUST BE POSI-  
TIVELY SUPPORTED BY ALL OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONFLICT,  
INCLUDING THE PALESTINIANS. THIS MEANS THAT THE PALESTIN-

PIANS MUST BE INVOLVED IN THE PEACEMAKING PROCESS. THEIR

REPRESENTATIVES WILL HAVE TO BE AT GENEVA FOR THE PALES-  
TINIAN QUESTION TO BE SOLVED.

AS CO-CHAIRMAN OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE, THE UNITED STATES  
HAS A SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR INSURING THE SUCCESS OF  
THE CONFERENCE. WE HAVE THEREFORE BEEN EXPLORING WITH  
THE CONFRONTATION STATES AND SAUDI ARABIA A NUMBER OF  
ALTERNATIVES WITH REGARD TO THE PARTICIPATION OF THE  
PALESTINIANS IN THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

WITH RESPECT TO UN RESOLUTION 242, ALL OF THE PARTICIPANTS  
IN THE PEACE CONFERENCE SHOULD ADHERE TO THE TERMS OF  
THAT RESOLUTION AND RESOLUTION 338, WHICH PRESENTLY FORM  
THE ONLY AGREED BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS." END TEXT.

3. DINITZ SAID HE FEARED ABOVE TEXT WOULD LEAD TO IMPRES-  
SION U.S. WAS CHANGING ITS POSITION ON PLO AND WAS NOW IN  
FAVOR OF PLO PARTICIPATION AT GENEVA. HABIB EXPLAINED  
WE WOULD MAKE CLEAR U.S. POSITION ON PLO HAD NOT CHANGED  
WHEN ANSWERING QUESTIONS. TEXT WAS STATEMENT OF U.S.  
POLICY ON A POINT ABOUT WHICH THERE HAD BEEN MANY INQUIRIES  
AND HAD BEEN DECIDED ON AT HIGH LEVEL. DINITZ SAID HE  
WOULD PREFER TO SEE EXPLICIT STATEMENT INCLUDED TO MAKE  
CLEAR U.S. POSITION ON PLO HAD NOT CHANGED. HABIB REPLIED  
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PAGE 03 STATE 217579

HE HAD NO AUTHORITY TO AMEND TEXT,  
BUT U.S. POSITION ON PLO REMAINED THAT WE ARE PREPARED  
TO TALK WITH THEM IF THEY ACCEPT 242 AND THE RIGHT OF ALL  
STATES IN THE AREA TO EXIST, WHICH CLEARLY INCLUDES  
ISRAEL. HABIB ADDED THAT IF DINITZ RECEIVED INSTRUCTION ON  
SUBJECT BY NEXT MORNING, HABIB WOULD OF COURSE WANT TO  
HEAR FROM DINITZ, BUT HE COULD NOT OFFER ANY ASSURANCE THAT  
TEXT COULD BE AMENDED. VANCE

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DRAFTED BY: UNA/BJSRAP

APPROVED BY: UNA/JFTEFFT

S/S-O TMARTIN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 217579

EXDIS FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG

FOL TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE FROM TEL AVIV DTD 11 SEP 1977 QTE

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 217579

EXDIS

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PAGE 02 STATE 217579

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PAGE 03 STATE 217579

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PALESTINIANS, PRESS COMMENTS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 11-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Drafter:** WSMITH:LL  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 0b208648-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN SS  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 4  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1314847  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PROPOSED REPLY BY PRESS SPOKESMAN TO QUESTION ON U.S. POSITION ON PALESTINIAN PARTICIPATION IN GENEVA CONFERENCE  
**TAGS:** SOPN, XF, US  
**To:** TEL AVIV  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009